

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of MINDY YUAN and U.S. POSTAL SERVICE,
POST OFFICE, Philadelphia, PA

*Docket No. 99-1925; Submitted on the Record;
Issued July 24, 2000*

DECISION and ORDER

Before MICHAEL J. WALSH, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS,
MICHAEL E. GROOM

The issue is whether appellant sustained disability after December 15, 1997 due to her April 22, 1997 employment injury.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of the parties on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated and finalized March 11, 1999 is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office hearing representative.¹

¹ Appellant submitted reports in which Dr. John McDonald, an attending osteopath, indicated that she had disability after December 15, 1997 due to her April 22, 1997 employment injury. These reports, however, are of limited probative value on the relevant issue of the present case in that Dr. McDonald did not provide adequate medical rationale in support of his conclusion on causal relationship; *see Leon Harris Ford*, 31 ECAB 514, 518 (1980) (finding that a medical report is of limited probative value on the issue of causal relationship if it contains a conclusion regarding causal relationship which is unsupported by medical rationale). Dr. McDonald's opinion is of limited probative value for the further reason that it is not based on a complete and accurate factual and medical history; *see William Nimitz, Jr.*, 30 ECAB 567, 570 (1979) (finding that a medical opinion on causal relationship must be based on a complete and accurate factual and medical history). Moreover, Dr. McDonald did not adequately explain how appellant's examination results supported a finding of disability or sufficiently describe why appellant's problems were not due to a nonwork-related condition.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated and finalized March 11, 1999 is affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C.
July 24, 2000

Michael J. Walsh
Chairman

Willie T.C. Thomas
Member

Michael E. Groom
Alternate Member